

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An inflatable lap belt safety bag comprising:
a lower section secured to a lap belt proximate an inflation source;
a middle section; and
an upper section;
wherein the upper section is ~~folded~~ tucked into the middle section and the upper section and middle section are ~~folded~~ tucked into the lower section; and
wherein upon inflation, the lower section inflates first to one side away from the inflation source, the middle section inflates next, and the upper section inflates last towards the inflation source.
2. (original) The safety bag of claim 1 wherein upon inflation the bag has approximately a C-shape.
3. (currently amended) The safety bag of claim 1 wherein the bag is adapted to inflate ~~inflates~~ around a user's arm.
4. (currently amended) The safety bag of claim 1 wherein the upper section is adapted to inflate ~~inflates~~ to the side of a user's head.

5. (original) The safety bag of claim 1 wherein the bag provides protection from both a forward component and a side component.

6. (currently amended) The safety bag of claim 1 wherein the bag is adapted to inflate ~~inflates~~ at an angle of 45° relative to the front of a user.

7. (currently amended) A lap belt comprising:
a housing; and
an inflatable safety bag wherein the safety bag comprises a lower section, a middle section and an upper section, and wherein the upper section is tucked ~~folded~~ into the middle section and the upper section and middle section are tucked ~~folded~~ into the lower section;
and wherein the air bag is folded into the housing and attached to the lap belt; and
wherein upon inflation, the lower section inflates first to one side away from an inflation source, the middle section inflates next, and the upper section inflates last towards the inflation source.

8. (original) The lap belt of claim 7 further comprising a tubing connected at ~~and~~ one end to an air source and at another end to the lower section of the air bag.

9. (original) The lap belt of claim 7 wherein upon inflation the bag has approximately a C-shape.

10. (currently amended) The lap belt of claim 7 wherein the bag is adapted to inflate ~~inflates~~ around a user's arm.

11. (currently amended) The lap belt of claim 7 wherein the upper section is adapted to inflate ~~inflates~~ to the side of a user's head.

12. (original) The lap belt of claim 7 wherein the airbag provides protection from both a forward component and a side component.

13. (currently amended) The lap belt of claim 7 wherein the housing is adapted to ~~positioned to~~ inflate the air bag at an angle of 45° relative to the front of a user. ~~The lap belt of claim 7 wherein the airbag provides protection from both a forward component and a side component.~~

14. (currently amended) A method for providing a vehicle restraint system comprising:

determining an orientation of a vehicle seat in relation to an expected direction for an impact event;

providing a lap belt comprising:

a housing; and

an inflatable safety bag wherein the safety bag comprises a lower section, a middle section and an upper section, and wherein the upper section is tucked ~~folded~~ into the middle section and the upper section and middle section are tucked ~~folded~~ into the lower section;

and wherein the air bag is folded into the housing and attached to the lap belt; and

wherein upon inflation, the lower section inflates first to one side away from an inflation source, the middle section inflates next, and the upper section inflates last

towards the inflation source; and

positioning the housing to direct inflation of the air bag towards the expected direction of an impact.

15. (original) The method of claim 14 wherein upon inflation the bag has approximately a C-shape.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the bag is adapted to inflate ~~inflates~~ around a user's arm.